

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MONTEV 01112 051321Z

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FM AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8590

INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINR, PFOR, UY

SUBJ: NEWSPAPERS SAY ZELMAR MICHELINI TRAVELED TO U.S. AT
SENATOR EDWARD KENNEDY'S INVITATION

1. APRIL 4 EL PAIS HEADLINES "ERRO JAILED INBUENOS AIRES; MICHELINI IN THE U.S. AT KENNEDY'S INVITATION." SUMMARY PARAGRAPH HEDGES BY NOTING "MICHELINI WENT TO THE U.S.AND IT IS SAID THAT KENNEDY INVITED HIM." BODY OF STORY STATES DEFINITELY THAT KENNEDY EXTENDED THE INVITATION AND ADDS, "FRIENDS OF MICHELINI SAID THAT HE PLANS TO TAKE UP RESIDENCE IN THE U.S. AFTER VISITING KENNEDY. IT IS NOT KNOWN WHAT MICHELINI PLANS TO DO IN THE U.S. SOME SOURCES ASSURE US THAT HE WILL PARTICIPATE IN A MEETING OF LEFTIST LATIN AMERICAN LEADERS UNDER KENNEDY'S SPONSORSHIP. MICHELINI'S DEPARTURE CAME IN THE MIDST OF A MASSIVE SERIES OF ARRESTS OF URUGUAYANS WHO WERE RENEWING THEIR SUBVERSIVE AND TERRORIST ACTIVITIES." FRONT PAGE PICUTRE OF KENNEDY IS CAPTIONED "HE INVITED MICHELINI TO SPEND THE SEASON IN THE U.S." AND IS FOLLOWED BY A QUESTION MARK BETWEEN PARENTHESES.

2. APRIL 4 EL DIA FRONTPAGES, "ERRO'S DENTION AND MICHELINI'S TRIP TO THE U.S. ARE CONFIRMED." SHORT INSIDE ITEM SAYS ONLY THAT A SPOKESMAN FOR ARGENTINA'S CASA DE BOGIERNO STATED THAT MICHELINI TRAVELED TO THE U.S IN RESPONE TO KENNEDY'S INVITATION.

3. COMMENT: ZELMAR MICHELINI, A FORMER SENATOR AND LEADER OF THE FRENTE AMPLIO LIST 99, HAS BEEN IN SELF-IMPOSED EXILE IN
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ARGENTINA SINCE THE DISSOLUTION OF CONGRESS. ALTHOUGH THE URUGUAYAN

PRESS HAS OCCASIONALLY CARRIED STOREIS ALLEGING HIS INVOLVEMENT IN
ANTI-GOU ACTIVITIES, EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT NO WARRANT HAS EVER
BEEN ISSUED FOR HIS ARREST BY URUGUAYAN AUTHORITIES.
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